MINUTES

OF THE

FORTY-SECOND ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

THREE FORKS

Baptist Association,

OF

NORTH CAROLINA,

HELD WITH

THE CHURCH AT FLAT TOP,

August 31st and Sept. 1st and 2nd, 1882.

Compiled by
D. C. HARMAN, CLERK, Sugar Grove, N. C.

RALEIGH:
EDWARDS, BROUGHTON & Co., Steam Printers and Binders.
1882.

Ministers and Officers.

Ordained Ministers.

ASA BROWN,
WM. H. CANTER,
G. H. CHURCH,
A. C. FARTHING,
J. A. FARTHING,
R. P. FARTHING,
D. C. HARMAN,
A. J. HARMAN,
JACOB HAGAMAN,
E. F. JONES,
W. F. KNIGHT,
JOB MOORE,
JAMES PRESNELL,
J. J. L. SHERWOOD,
WM. WILCOXON.

Licentiates.

C. JOHNSON,
E. G. HARMAN,
WARREN MOORE,
W. A. HARMAN,
J. M. HARMAN,
GEORGE McGINNIS,
DAVID GREEN,
A. J. McBRIDE.

Officers.

MODERATOR:

A. C. FARTHING,..... Sweet Water, N. C.

CLERK AND TREASURER:

D. C. HARMAN,..... Sugar Grove, N. C.

PROCEEDINGS.

FLAT TOP, N. C., August 31, 1882.

The Three Forks Association convened in its Forty-Second Annual Session with the church at Flat Top.

Elder A. C. Farthing failing to arrive, the Introductory Sermon was preached by Elder D. C. Harman. Text: "There remaineth, therefore, a rest to the people of God." Hebrews 4: 9.

Recess 30 minutes.

Re-assembled. Singing by the congregation, prayer by by Elder Steven Buchanan.

Received and read letters from all the churches composing this Union from which the tables annexed were prepared.

Organized by appointing Elder A. C. Farthing, Moderator, and Elder D. C. Harman, Clerk.

Called for churches desiring admission into this body. Mt. Zion church, No. 2, dismissed from Roan Mountain Association, offered a letter and petition for membership by her delegate, Eli Purnell.

On motion, received and delegate invited to a seat.

Called for Corresponding Messengers, and the following were enrolled and welcomed to seats: From the Roan Mountain Association, Elders Steven Buchanan and J. W. Putnam, and Bro. Jacob Yonce; from Watauga, Elder L. L. Maples and Bro. E. R. Hunter; from Brushy Mountain, Elders I. W. Thomas, I. Oxford, Harvey West, F. P. Clark and J. S. Gwaltney.

Invited visiting ministers to seats and the following accepted: From Three Forks Association, Elder G. H. Church; from Salem, Bro. I. G. Pulliam; from Catawba, Bro. R. L. Patten.

On motion, requested the Moderator to appoint all the committees for the session, whereupon he announced the following:

On Education—Elders E. F. Jones and G. H. Church.
On Sunday Schools—Elder J. J. L. Sherwood and Bro. W. F. Shull.
On Missions—Bros. T. E. R. Hunter and J. J. T. Reece.
On Temperance—Elders Steven Buchanan and L. L. Maples.
On Periodicals—Elder J. W. Putnam and Bro. Jacob Yonce.
On Resolutions—Bros. A. J. Critcher and W. W. Presnel.

On Correspondence and Union Meetings—Elder J. A. Farthing and Bro. John Crisp.

On Devotional Exercises—Bros. Hugh Hagaman and Jesse Moore with the messengers of Flat Top Church.

On Order of Business—Bro. Wiley Church, Elder J. A. Farthing and Bro. John Crisp with the Moderator and Clerk. On motion, instructed them to invite correspondents to sit with them.

On Obituaries—Elders E. F. Jones and J. A. Farthing, and Bros. J. H. Mast and John Crisp.

On Finance—Bros. A. J. McBride, J. J. T. Reece and A. J. Critcher.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises reports for to-morrow, 1st, J. W. Putnam will preach at 11 o'clock, A. M., and 2nd, J. J. L. Sherwood at 1 o'clock P. M.

On motion, adjourned to meet at 9½ o'clock to-morrow morning.

Prayer, Elder I. Smith leading. Benediction by the Moderator.

Friday Morning.

September 1st, 1882.

Met pursuant to adjournment. Singing conducted by the Moderator, prayer by Bro. A. J. McBride.

Read and approved the minutes of yesterday.

Called the roll and marked absentees.

Read the Rules of Decorum.

Called on the Committee on the Order of Business to report, who reported satisfactorily and were discharged.

Called on the Treasurer who submitted the following report, which was approved:

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Received from the Association		$62 20
Paid to Foreign Mission Board and registering letter	$37 20	
Paid for printing minutes	15 00	
Total		52 20
Balance in Treasurer's hands		$10 00

Called on Corresponding Messengers to report, who reported satisfactorily.

Called on brethren appointed to attend Union Meetings, who also reported satisfactorily.

Called on our Missionary and Colporteur, who submitted the following report, which was adopted:

MISSIONARY'S REPORT.

DEAR BRETHREN: I herein present an annual report as General Missionary and Colporteur of your body, from September 1st, 1881, to September 1st, 1882. Days labored, 24; miles traveled, 240; sermons preached, 21. Received from the Association $24.40. Expended for books and tracts $27. Sold $30 worth of books. Book Fund $30.33.

G. H. CHURCH.

Appointed a Missionary and Colporteur by ballot, which resulted in the election of Elder E. F. Jones, who accepted the colporteur work but declined to ride as missionary.

On motion, appointed a committee of three, viz., A. J. Critcher, W. F. Shull and J. J. T. Reece, to secure funds for Associational Missions, and that they take pledges from the brethren to be paid by next Association, and that they make an earnest effort to secure all the funds they can within the year so that the work be begun next year.

Recess until 1 o'clock P. M.

FRIDAY EVENING.

Reassembled. Called to order by the Moderator.

Report of the Committee on Finance read. Motion to adopt. Remarks by Elders Jones and Sherwood, and Bros. McBride and Crisp. Adopted.

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE.

Received from the churches for printing Minutes and other purposes		$37 10
For Foreign Missions		22 50
Received from church at Boone		5 18
" " the Treasurer		10 00
Total		$74 78
Paid to Clerk for services	$ 5 50	
" " correspondents	6 00	
Left in the hands of the Clerk and Treasurer for printing Minutes and Foreign Missions embracing the receipt from the church at Boon		$63 28

J. J. T. REECE, Chairman.

On motion of Bro. A. J. McBride, it was agreed to cease using the money contributed by the churches for printing minutes, to pay correspondents to sister Associations, and use it for printing the minutes.

Took up a query presented by Bros. Joshua Curtis and John Curtis:

Query.—Is it good order to receive persons into the church who have been excluded by a sister church, before they have been restored to fellowship in the church from which they were excluded?

Answer.—No.

Took up a query sent up by the church at Flat Top, which, after remarks by Elder J. A. Farthing and others, was postponed until 9½ o'clock to-morrow A. M.

The Committee on Sunday Schools requested further time. On motion, postponed and made special order for 10½ o'clock to-morrow A. M.

Called on the Board of Trustees of Three Forks Baptist High School to report, who reported that there had been no school taught since last Association.

Report on Home and Foreign Missions read by J. J. T. Reece. Motion to adopt. Consideration of the report postponed and made special for 1 o'clock to-morrow P. M.

The Committee on Education submitted the following report. Motion to adopt. Remarks by Elders Jones, Maples and Church. Adopted.

REPORT ON EDUCATION.

Education in the sense of mental and moral training is a necessity. If our minds and morals were developed as our bodies are, we would be a race of mental giants. In order that the minds and morals of the young people of our country be developed we must take fast hold of institutions of learning and support and patronize them.

We are glad that the people of our hill country are interested in general education, but we need academies for the better training of our children. Our high school at Boone is not in such a condition as we would have it, therefore we recommend that the Association take hold of that property and finish the house; place a good teacher there and use efforts to build a good school, or sell the property and locate a school in a place more suitable to build a high school.

We recommend Wake Forest College to the people of this Association as an excellent place to give their young men and boys a finished education, and Bristol Female College as a place for young ladies to receive a good, practical and finished education.

E. F. JONES, Chairman.

On motion, agreed to take a subscription at once for the completion of the Baptist High School House at Boone and received $37.50.

Called on the Committee on Obituaries, who submitted the following report. Motion to adopt. Remarks by Elder Jones and others. Adopted.

REPORT ON OBITUARIES.

It is with sadness of heart that we chronicle the death of two of our brethren in the ministry, to-wit: STEVEN J. FARTHING and WESLEY PHILLIPS.

Elder Steven J. Farthing was a son of Rev. W. W. Farthing; was born in Wake county, N. C., on the 3rd day January, 1823. He joined the Baptist church at Cove Creek at about the age of twenty years, and began to preach at the age of twenty seven, and was ordained to the full work of the gospel ministry five or six years after he commenced preaching. He continued to preach the gospel till the close of his life with simplicity and earnestness, and scarcely any man with us to-day sustains the Christian character that Elder Farthing sustained through life since he made a profession of religion. But his voice will be heard among us no more; he is gone to his rest; his work here is done; his body is in the grave and his spirit with God who gave it.

As a Christian and a citizen Rev. Farthing was a model, and in this respect we may with profit copy his good qualities.

His death occurred on the 25th of January, 1882. He leaves a wife and five children to whom, as an Association, we offer our sympathy.

As we do not have the dates that are necessary to a full obituary of Rev. Wesley Phillips, we must content ourselves by saying that he was a faithful Christian man and a simple, earnest preacher, ever ready for any work for his Master whom he loved.

He is done visiting our Association and his voice will be heard no more at South Fork Church, of which he was a member. We bid him good by till we meet him over the River of Death. We as a body and an Association, tender our sympathy to his companion and children, whom he has left behind. May God bless them all.

E. F. JONES, Chairman.

Committee on preaching reported for to-morrow that Elder J. H. West would preach at 10 o'clock A. M., and Elder J. S. Gwaltney close; I. W. Thomas at 1 o'clock P. M.

On motion, adjourned to meet to-morrow A. M. at 9½ o'clock. Singing conducted by the Moderator and prayer by I. W. Thomas.

SATURDAY MORNING.

September 2nd, 1882.

Met pursuant to adjournment.

Called to order by singing; prayer by Elder E. F. Jones.

Read and approved the minutes of yesterday. Called and corrected the roll.

The time for the consideration of the query from Flat Top having arrived, it was, on motion of A. J. McBride, laid on the table.

The report on Sunday Schools was read by W. F. Shull. Motion to adopt. Interesting remarks by Bros. Shull, Pulliam and Patten, and Elders Jones and Sherwood. Adopted.

REPORT ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

Your Committee on Sunday Schools report the following:

We find that eighteen of the twenty-three churches of this Association have Sunday Schools. Boone Church reports an Evergreen Sunday School. While we are pleased with the progress of the Sunday School work in our midst, your committee believe that we need more interest on the part of the members of the churches, as the Sunday School is for old folks as well as children, and that it is the church at work. We ought, if possible, to reach the masses of our members, as only one now and then takes a lively interest in the work.

We need more thorough organization, and more consecrated enthusiasm in the work. We hope the messengers of this Association will go home and each take hold of the work as if it is his own. Your committee would suggest that a Sunday School Institute be held in each of the divisions of this Association.

Respectfully submitted,

W. F. SHULL, Chairman.

On motion suspended the rules and called for the report on Home and Foreign Missions, which was read by J. J. T. Reece. Moved to adopt. Remarks by Elders Jones, Church and Gwaltney and brother Pulliam, which appealed strongly to the hearts of christians. Adopted.

FOREIGN MISSIONARY REPORT.

Missions is the soul of the Bible. Jesus Christ himself was the first Foreign Missionary. He came from Heaven to earth to save sinners, and he commanded his people to go into all the earth and preach the Gospel to every creature. Saul and Barnabas were the first missionaries to the Gentiles. If we have been saved from our sins by the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, we should try to send the Gospel to all the world.

We believe that the churches ought to take collections twice a year for Foreign Missions, or adopt a plan by which they can secure a contribution from every member. We propose that one or more active members be appointed in every church by the Pastors to take a collection of five cents from every member.

The Home Mission work needs our encouragement also. There are several destitutions in our bounds that need help, and beyond our limits we find fields destitute of the Gospel, viz: the greater portion of Ashe and Alleghany counties. Therefore, we advise the churches to encourage this work by their means.

Respectfully submitted,

J. J. T. REECE, Chairman.

The Committee on Temperance submitted their report. Motion to adopt. Remarks by Elders Sherwood, Church and Jones. Adopted.

REPORT.

Your committee feels grateful to be able to report a continued progress in the cause of temperance among Baptists, and in order to secure the permanent benefit of all we have gained, we advise that stringent rules be adopted in all our churches touching the use of intoxicating drinks.

Respectfully submitted,

STEVEN BUCHANAN, Chairman.

The report on Periodicals was called for, which was read by Elder J. W. Putnam. Motion to adopt. Remarks by Elders I. W. Thomas, representing the RECORDER, and J. G. Pulliam, representing the *Blue Ridge Baptist.*

Business was suspended for ten minutes in order that the above named brethren take subscriptions for said papers.

Called to order and the report adopted.

REPORT ON PERIODICALS.

Your Committee on Periodicals report that we believe every Baptist family within the bounds of this Association should take a good Baptist paper, that our people may know what the churches are doing all over our country, and also in foreign fields. We therefore recommend the *Blue Ridge Baptist*, published at Hendersonville, N. C., weekly, at one dollar per year. Also the BIBLICAL RECORDER, published at Raleigh, N. C., as worthy of our patronage. As Sunday School literature: the International Series of Bible Lessons, published by the American Baptist Publication Society, Philadelphia, the *Young Reaper* and *Kind Words*, the former published at Philadelphia and the latter at Macon, Georgia.

Respectfully submitted,

J. W. PUTNAM, Chairman.

The Committee on Correspondence and Union Meetings submitted a report which, after an explanation by Elder J. A. Farthing, was adopted.

REPORT ON CORRESPONDENTS.

Appointed to the Catawba River Association—Elders E. F. Jones, G. H. Church and I. Smith.

To the Brushy Mountain—Elders Wm. Wilcoxon and Wm. Knight, and brethren John Crisp and Jesse Moore.

To Rowan Mountain—Elders D. C. Harman, Asa Brown and A. C. Farthing.

To Watauga—Elders J. J. L. Sherwood, E. F. Jones and A. J. Harman, and brethren J. M. Harman, Wm. Shull and Elder J. A. Farthing.

UNION MEETINGS.

Appointed one with the church at Beech Mountain, on Saturday before the third Sunday in October, 1882, Elders I. W. Thomas and E. F. Jones to attend.

One with the church at Antioch, on Saturday before the first Sunday

in June, 1883, Elders A. C. Farthing, J. J. L. Sherwood and A. J. McBride to attend.

One with the church at Mount Pleasant, on Saturday before the first Sunday in May, 1883, Elders A. C. Farthing, Asa Brown and I. Smith to attend.

One with the church at Pisgah, Saturday before the first Sunday in November, 1882, Elders A. C. Farthing, D. C. Harman and Wm. Knight to attend.

One with the church at Three Forks, on Saturday before the Second Sunday in May, 1883, Elders J. J. L. Sherwood, A. C. Farthing and A. J. McBird to attend.

Respectfully submitted,

J. A. FARTHING, Chairman.

The Committee on Resolutions read the following report, which was adopted:

REPORT.

Resolved, That we do advise our brethren appointed to attend as correspondents to sister Associations and Union Meetings to be more prompt to attend.

Resolved, That we do hereby tender our thanks to the brethren and friends in this vicinity for their kindness and hospitality shown us during this session of the Association.

Respectfully submitted,

W. W. PRESNELL, Chairman.

On motion, appointed the following brethren Messengers to represent us in the next Western Baptist Convention, viz: Elders E. F. Jones, G. H. Church and W. F. Shull.

Appointed the Clerk Treasurer and to superintend the printing and distribution of 600 of these minutes.

Appointed the next Association to convene with the church at Mulberry, Caldwell county, N. C., 14 miles west of Lenoir, to commence on Thursday before the first Sunday in September, 1883.

Appointed Elder A. C. Farthing to preach the Introductory Sermon, Elder E. F. Jones alternate.

On motion the Moderator was instructed to take up a collection to-morrow, after second sermon, for Foreign Missions.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises reported for Sunday 1st: Elder L. W. Putnam to preach at 10:30 o'clock, A. M., followed by Elder I. Oxford, the Moderator to close. By request of the Moderator he was allowed to supply his place, whereupon he announced Elder J. J. L. Sherwood.

On motion, adjourned to meet at time and place appointed. Appropriate closing exercises.

A. C. FARTHING, Moderator.

D. C. HARMAN, Clerk.

SUNDAY, A. M., Sept. 3d, 1882.

A large congregation assembled in the Grove, and at the time appointed Elder J. W. Putnam preached from the text, "Hear ye Him." Matthew xvii: 5. Elder I. Oxford followed. Text: "For by grace ye are saved through faith, and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God." Eph. ii: 8.

At the close of the second sermon a rain came up, the congregation scattered and the collection was not taken.

CLERK.

The churches will please give Sabbath School statistics in their letters to the Association, so that a complete tabular statement may appear in the Minutes of our next session.

CLERK.

Churches, Pastors, Post Offices, &c.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	MONTHLY MEETINGS.	POST OFFICES.	Ordained Preachers.	Licentiates.	S. Schools.	No. of Pupils	Average Attendance.
Antioch	D. C. Harman	1st Sunday	Watauga Falls, Watauga county, N. C.	1	2	1	60	40
Bethel	J. A. Farthing	4th Sunday	Sweet Water, Watauga county, N. C	3	...	1	.....	.....
Brushy Fork	E. F. Jones	2nd Sunday	Boone, Watauga county, N. C	.....	1	1	55	41
Beaver Dam	A. C. Farthing	2nd Sunday	Sweet Water, Watauga county, N. C.	1	1	2	110	78
Beech Mountain	D. C. Harman	3rd Sunday	Banners Elk, Watauga county, N. C	.....	...	...	.....	.....
Bethany	J. A. Craig	2nd Sunday	Patterson, Caldwell county, N. C.	.....	...	...	.....	.....
Boone	I. W. Thomas	4th Sunday	Boone, Watauga county, N. C	1	...	1	40	30
Big Laurel	Wm. H. Canter	4th Sunday	Apple Grove, Ashe county, N. C.	.....	...	1	35	30
Cove Creek	J. J. L. Sherwood	3rd Sunday	Sugar Grove, Watauga county, N. C	.....	..	1	75	40
Flat Top	A. C. Farthing	1st Sunday	Blowing Rock, Watauga county, N. C.	1	...	...	.....	.....
Globe	A. C. Farthing	4th Sunday	Globe, Caldwell county, N. C	1	...	1	44	40
Laurel Spring	Asa Brown and E. F. Eller	4th Sunday	Pine Top, Watauga county, N. C	1	...	1	39	18
Meat Camp	A. J. Harman	2nd Sunday	Soda Hill, Watauga county, N. C	.....	1	...	.....	.....
Mt. Pleasant	Wm. Wilcoxon	1st Sunday	Gap Creek, Ashe county, N. C.	1	...	...	.....	.....
Mt. Zion, No. 2	James Presnell	2nd Sunday	Watauga Falls, Watauga county, N. C.	1	...	...	.....	.....
Mt. Zion, No. 1	E. F. Jones	1st Sunday	Trade, Johnson county, Tenn.	2	1	1	.....	.....
Mt. Gilead	A. J. Harman	3rd Sunday	Beech Creek, Watauga county, N. C	1	...	1	45	35
Mulberry	Monroe Cragg	1st Sunday	Risdon, Caldwell county, N. C.	.....	1	1	30	25
Pisgah	I. Smith	1st Sunday	Lenoir, Caldwell county, N. C	1	...	...	.....	.....
South Forks	I. W. Thomas	3rd Sunday	Elk Cross Roads, Ashe county, N. C	1	...	...	.....	.....
Three Forks	E. F. Jones	2nd Sunday	Boone, Watauga county, N. C	.....	...	1	55	40
Sampson	Larkin Pips	3rd Sunday	Buffalo Cove, Caldwell county, N. C	.....	...	1	38	12
Yadkin	F. P. Clark	3rd Sunday	Patterson, Caldwell county, N. C.	.....	...	...	.....	.....

STATISTICAL TABLE.

CHURCHES.	NAMES OF MESSENGERS.	Received by baptism.	Received by letter.	Dismissed by letter.	Restored.	Excluded.	Deceased.	Total Membership	For Minutes and other purposes.	Foreign Missions.
Antioch	D. C. Harman and J. M. Harman	10	3	.....	1	1	...	89	$ 2 00	.....
Bethel	J. A. Farthing, A. C. Farthing and L. W. Farthing	.....	.....	.....	...	...	3	112	3 00	.....
Brushy Fork	David Adams, W. T. Hayes and Wiley Holsclaw	2	10	11	...	2	..	148	3 00	.....
Beaver Dam	J. J. T. Reece and Hugh Hagaman	2	.....	4	...	5	1	109	3 00	$ 7 00
Beech Mountain	J. S. Hills and Abram Ayers	.....	7	3	...	6	1	28	75	.....
Bethany	Wm. Curtis, Thos. Curtis and Joshua Curtis	.....	.....	.....	...	...	2	42	50	.....
Boone	W. C. Coffey, W. W. Presnell and W. L. Bryan	3	1	1	...	...	...	34	2 00	5 18
Big Laurel	John Hagaman and Alexander Hagaman	.....	10	4	..	2	...	24	75	.....
Cove Creek	A. J. McBride, W. F. Shull and J. H. Mast	7	3	.....	1	2	1	119	3 00	4 65
Flat Top	W. F. Knight, L. L. Estes and C. C. Green	.....	.....	.....	...	2	...	52	1 07	.....
Globe	Jesse Moore and E. D. Crisp	4	4	6	1	..	1	69	2 00	10 05
Laurel Spring	Asa Brown, Joseph Brown and Elzey Phillips	.....	.....	6	...	2	...	58	1 50	.....
Meat Camp	David Green and Manley Green	6	6	12	1	2	...	102	2 00	.....
Mt. Pleasant	W. H. Canter and Wm. Lee	1	1	5	...	...	...	104	2 05	.....
Mt. Zion, No. 2	Eli Presnell	4	.....	4	...	3	...	43	.....	.....
Mt. Zion, No. 1	E. F. Jones, J. J. L. Sherwood and Abraham Roten	4	8	2	4	..	...	146	2 60	.....
Mt. Gilead	John Jones	4	3	1	1	1	1	47	1 00	.....
Mulberry	John Edmiston	2	3	1	3	1	...	26	50	.....
Pisgah	John Crisp, I. Smith and J. H. Crisp	.....	2	.....	...	...	...	24	1 00	.....
South Forks	Wiley Church, Felix McGuire and Elijah Tatom	.....	.....	1	...	4	1	100	1 37	.....
Three Forks	Thos. D. Cook and A. J. Critcher	14	3	4	2	1	...	130	2 50	.....
Sampson	J. W. Coffey, J. P. Robbins and G. W. Robbins	10	4	.....	...	...	...	36	51	.....
Yadkin	Wilborn Coffey and A. E. Nelson	.....	3	....	...	2	1	40	1 00	80
		73	71	65	14	36	12	1682	$37 10	$27 68